

Vocabulary
Paper Airplanes
Mr. Randy Kreifel

aerodynamics: The study of the effects of bodies moving relative to gases, especially the interaction of moving objects with the atmosphere.

aileron: Either of two movable flaps on the wings of an airplane that can be used to control the plane's rolling and banking movements.

drag: The retarding (slowing down) force exerted on a moving body by a fluid medium such as air or water.

elevator: A movable control surface, usually attached to the horizontal stabilizer of an aircraft that is used to produce nose-up or nose-down motion (pitch).

glider: A light engineless aircraft designed to glide after being towed aloft or launched from a high location such as a building or mountain.

launch: To set or thrust a craft or projectile into motion.

lift: Force available for overcoming the force of gravity.

nose: The nose of an aircraft is the structure at the very front of the aircraft that is shaped in such a way as to reduce drag. The nose is usually shaped like a cone or a dome.

rudder: A vertically hinged plate of metal, fiberglass, or wood mounted at the tail of an aircraft, used for effecting horizontal changes in course.

stability: Stability is the ability of an object, such as a ship or aircraft, to maintain equilibrium or resume its original, upright position after being displaced from its original course.

streamlined: Designed or arranged to offer the least resistance to airflow.

thrust: The forward-directed force developed in a propeller, jet, or rocket engine as a reaction to the high-velocity rearward ejection of air or exhaust gases.